

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 3, line 6, insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--; and  
line 10, delete "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION".

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph as follows:

-- As an example, first, all documents included in a group of documents, targeted for summarization, are divided into words, and frequencies are totaled. Generally, since words often appearing in the group of documents have higher degrees of representation for the group of documents, it is more probable that words having higher appearing frequencies in the group of documents are included in a summary. However, general words often appearing in anythe documents, e.g., "do", are not proper as topic words. Thus, normally, topic words are selected by considering also the appearing frequency thereof in a document database, to which a group of documents belongs. That is, a word having a higher appearing frequency in a specified group of documents and a lower total appearing frequency in the entire document databases is a characteristic word, because it appears only in the specified group of documents and thus is proper to be included in a summary in order to characterize the group of the documents. Specifically, for each word in the group of documents, a word weight is calculated by a proper function containing an appearing frequency in the group of documents and an appearing frequency in the document database as inputs, and a word having a weight equal to/higher than a predetermined threshold value is employed for summarization. --